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PATENT APPLICATION Attorney's Docket No.: 2376.2006-000

N THE ENITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Mark C. Inlow

Application No.:

10/630,347

Group:

. 2612

Filed:

July 30, 2003

Examiner:

Tai T. Nguyen

Confirmation No.:

9292

For:

ELECTRONIC INSERTION/EXTRACTION CYCLE COUNTER

AND LOGGER DEVICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on:

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DECLARATION OF MARK C. INLOW UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Mark C. Inlow, hereby declare and state that:

- I am the inventor of the claimed subject matter of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/630,347, entitled "Electronic Insertion/Extraction Cycle Counter and Logger Device," filed on July 30, 2003.
- 2. I have read and I understand the above referenced U.S. Patent Application No. 10/630,347.
- 3. I am aware of the Mitchell patent (U.S. Patent No. 6,662,119) and that it was filed on August 2, 2002. I hereby declare that I conceived, reduced to practice, and was diligent

in possession of the invention as evidenced by the attached Exhibit. The exhibit is an authentic copy of the original document referenced in the below account of the conception of the invention to reduction to practice.

- 4. I am aware that this Declaration and Exhibit are being filed at the USPTO subsequent hereto.
- The invention described and claimed in the above-referenced application was conceived at least as early as February 2001, almost eighteen months prior to August 2, 2002, which is the filing date, and earliest priority date, of the U.S. Patent No. 6,662,119 to Mitchell. I reduced to practice the invention described in the present application by October 24, 2001, when I authored a description document titled "Functional Hardware Description Document and Firmware Programming Instructions for Connector Counter 80.6511," which was used internally for testing purposes. On April 3, 2002, I filled-in answers to questions of an invention questionnaire that was forwarded to Tellabs, Inc. ("Tellabs") legal counsel. The Exhibit presents a copy of the "Invention Questionnaire" for the invention claimed in the above-referenced patent application, which includes the aforementioned description document.
- 6. Between May and July 2003, I presented the invention to Mr. Mark Solomon and Mr. Seth Cannon at the law firm of Hamilton, Brook, Smith & Reynolds, P.C., and reviewed draft(s) of the patent application that was filed in the USPTO on July 30, 2003, as evidenced by the subject application. By way of a Declaration I signed on October 4, 2003, which was filed on January 13, 2004, I declared that I understood and am the inventor of the claimed invention.
- 7. In conclusion, prior to August 2, 2002, and in the United States, I both conceived and reduced to practice the invention described and claimed in the above-referenced application. At no time did I attempt to suppress, conceal, or abandon the application, nor am I aware of anyone attempting to do same, between the date of conception to filing of the present patent application.

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I further acknowledge that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Mark C. Inlow
12/27/06

Date